## **EXHIBIT F**

(PART 2 OF 2)

- 32. Defendants breached that duty of care by negligently supervising John Groff when they knew, or should have known, that he was an eight-time convicted criminal, he is unethical, he is untrustworthy, and is a completely inappropriate person to entrust with management of a law firm.
- 33. Further, Defendants should have known the manner in which the client was a member of the firm, the manner in which he was compensating the firm (here, with sex), and the manner in which Mr. Groff was involved in the matters before the Court, which appears to have been substantial and beyond that which is permitted by a layman.
- 34. As a direct and proximate result of this negligence, Plaintiff has had promises of the manner in which his criminal matters would be disposed of breached and he has had less than zealous representation, resulting in worse results than if Mr. Groff had not been involved.
- 35. As a result of this negligence, promises made by Groff on behalf of the firm were not fulfilled, Plaintiff's incarceration was greater than that which was promised, and Plaintiff has suffered extreme emotional distress.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for compensatory damages and attorneys' fees pursuant to <u>Saffer v. Willoughby</u>, 670 A.2d 527 (N.J. 1996), interest, costs and such further relief as the Court may find just and equitable.

### DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Matthew S. Wolf is designated as trial counsel in this action.

### **CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:5-1**

I hereby certify that the within matter in controversy is not the subject of a claim filed by the Plaintiff, and there is no other party who should be joined in this action at this time. Plaintiff reserves the right to bring into this action parties whose liability may be derived from discovery in this matter. Plaintiff does have criminal matters pending in the Superior Court. CAM-L-003997-18 10/22/2018 4:33:31 PM Pg 8 of 35 Trans ID: LCV20181841800 Case 1:19-cv-20142-RMB-AMD Document 40-17 Filed 08/25/20 Page 3 of 31 PageID: 2074

### JURY TRIAL DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands trial by jury as to all such issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted, MATTHEW S. WOLF, ÆSQUIRE, LLC

Marisa J. Hérmanovich Attorneys for Plaintiff

Dated: December 14, 2015

### Matthew S. Wolf, Esquire

Admitted in NJ & PA

Unit B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor 1236 Brace Road Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Matthew S. Wolf, Esquire, LLC

Marisa J. Hermanovich, Esquire Admitted in NJ, PA & FL Tel: (856) 872-2929

Fax: (856) 872-2928

SUPERIUM LOUKE LAW UP

mwolf@matthewswolf.com marisa@matthewswolf.com

December 14, 2015

Clerk of the Superior Court Camden County, Civil Division 101 South 5th Street Rm 150 Camden NJ 08103-4000

RE:

Javier Carrasquillo v. Conrad J. Benedetto, Esquire, &

the Law Offices of Conrad J. Benedetto

Docket No.: CAM-L-

Dear Clerk:

This firm represents the Plaintiff in the above-captioned matter. Enclosed please find an original and one (1) copy of the following documents for filing:

- 1. Civil Case Information Statement; and
- 2. Complaint.

Please charge our Attorney Collateral Account No. 142322 for the \$250 filing fee. Please assign a docket number and return a "filed" stamped copy in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Sharon E. Roman, Paralegal

Office Manager

sharon@matthewswolf.com

Encl.

cc: Client

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# EXHIBIT

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		v.				untyName County		
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(N.J.S.A	L 2C:44-6b(2)).	* *				TE: (FreavTo)		
. Total Cu	ıstodial Term	Institution		Tota!	Probation	FIVE (5) YEARS TERM SUPERVISED WITH CONDITIONS		

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State Bureau of Identification
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CP01056 (rev. 08/20/02)
Page 1 of 2
DEPT OF CORRECTIONS OR COUNTY PENAL INSTITUTION

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EKIMNAL RECUKUS Fax:856	3/92255 M	ay 3 2005 15:4!	5 P.03		
State of New Jersey v. JOHN GROFF, JR.	5.9.I.# 811749B	Ind / Aco#	S-43-07-01		
Total Fine \$ Total RESTITUTION \$	35 or 36 of Title 2C,		, and is for a violation of Chapter		
If the offense occurred on or after December 23, 1991, an assessment of \$50 is imposed on each count on which the defendant was convicted unless the box below indicates a higher assessment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:43-3.1. (Assessment is \$30 if offense is on or after January 9, 1986 but before December 23, 1991, unless a higher penalty is noted. Assessment is \$25 if offense is before January 9, 1986.)  Assessment imposed on count(s) 1 is \$50 each.	1" Degree 2" Degree 3" Degree 3" Degree 2" Degree 2" Degree 3" Degree 3" Degree 2" Deg	(Write in # times for each @ \$3000 4* @ \$2000 Dit @ \$1000 Dit Total D.E.D.R. Potal Collection of the D.E.D.R residential drug program is of \$50 per offense is OR	L) Degree @ \$750 sorderly Persons of Petty sorderly Persons @ \$500		
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\$ <u>20</u> per <u>MONTH</u>	OF THE COURT IS UNABL	(IF THE COURT IS UNABLE TO COLLECT THE LICENSE, PLEASE ALSO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING.).  Defendant's Address  Eye Color Sex Date of Birth 08/27/71			
beginning <u>12/03/04</u>	FOLLOWING ).				
(Date)	Defendant's Address	Cov Dal	a of Right no 19754		
	iurisdiction	older of an out-of-state anv ver's License Number	sta liceuse trott tue tenowing		
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If the offense occurred on or after August 2, 1993, a \$75 Safe Weight (P.L. 1993, e.220) 1 COUNT - \$75	barhood Services-Fund easessmen	(-ls-ordered for each convictio	n		
if the offense occurred on or after January 5, 1994 and the sentence (P.L. 1993, C. 275) Amount per month \$10.	is to probation, a fee of up to \$25	per month for the probationary	term is ordered.		
If the crime occurred on or after Jenuary 9, 1897, a \$30 Law Enforce					
If the crime occurred on or after May 4, 2001, and the detendant has 2C:13-1c(2), endanger the welfare of a child by engaging in sexual a of a child pursuant to 2C:24-4b(4), furing or enteling a child pursuant 2C:13-1, criminal restraint pursuant to 2C:13-2 or fatso imprisonment prostution pursuant to 2C:34-1b(3) or (4), or an attempt to commit each of these offenses.	·		La		
Programme and the contract of	elephone Number	Name (Alomey for Defendant at			
		SAUL J. STEINBEF	(G, E2C).		
STATEMENT OF REASONS - Include all applicable agg	ravating and mitigating facto	rs			
SEE ATTACHED STATEMENT OF REASONS			1		
Judge (Name) WILLIAW J. COOK, J.S.C.	udge (Signalire) UULA U	& Check	11/03/04		

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## SENTENCE AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR SENTENCE John Groff, Jr. (I-01-07-43S)

On November 3, 2004, defendant entered into a renegotiated plea agreement with the Prosecutor. Under the terms of the agreement, in return for defendant's plea of guilty to Amended Count 2, I-01-07-43S, thirddegree attempted theft by deception in an amount in excess of \$500 and less than \$75,000, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:45-1, defendant is to be sentenced to five (5) years supervised probation, with the conditions to include continued cooperation by defendant with law enforcement authorities regarding certain criminal matters, to the extent defendant has knowledge regarding such matters; DNA testing, \$50 VCCB, \$75 SNSF, \$30 LEOPA; Count 1 of I-01-07-43S is to be dismissed; defendant is to receive all lawful jail credits, including 414 days for the periods of July 27-28, 2001 and September 19, 2003 to November 3, 2004; both parties, the defendant and the State, waive the right to appeal the plea and the sentence. The sentence imposed in this matter on September 19, 2003 is to be vacated; and the sentence which is the subject of this renegotiated plea agreement is to be imposed.

Defendant has entered a renegotiated plea of guilty to Amended Count 2, I-01-07-43S, attempted theft by deception (purposely attempting to obtain property of another in excess of \$500 and less than \$75,000), a third

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degree offense, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:5-1, 2C:20-4 and 2C:2-6.

Amended Count 2 charges defendant with insurance fraud, specifically,

That defendant, John Groff, Jr., between on or about June 2, 1996 and on or about April 8, 1997, at the Cities of Camden and Gloucester, at the Boroughs of Bellmawr, Runnemede, and Haddon Heights, at the Townships of Voorhees, Pennsauken, and Cherry Hill, in the County of Camden, at the Townships of Evesham and Moorestown, in the County of Burlington, at the Township of Holmdel, in the County of Monmouth, at the City of New Brunswick, in the County of Middlesex, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, the defendant did purposely obtain or attempt to obtain property of another in excess of \$500 and less than \$75,000 by deception, that is, the defendant did purposely obtain or attempt to obtain in excess of \$500 and less than \$75,000 from Allstate Insurance Company, State Farm Insurance Company, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, Prudential Insurance Company, and Material Damage Adjustment Corporation, by creating the false impression that certain individuals had suffered bodily injuries as a result of motor vehicle accidents that occurred on June 2, 1996, June 20, 1996, June 26, 1996, July 13, 1996, July 24, 1996, and August 1, 1996; whereas, in truth and fact, as the defendant well knew, these individuals had not suffered bodily injuries. and said motor vehicle accidents had not occurred.

The Court has reviewed and considered the pre-sentence report,<sup>1</sup> the testimony of New Jersey Department of Criminal Justice Investigator Allan Buecker, Jr., concerning the substantial cooperation of defendant with law enforcement agents in other cases, and the arguments of counsel at sentencing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> R. 3:21-2 (preparation and submission of presentence report to the Court; report shall contain all presentence material having any bearing whatever on the sentence and shall be furnished to the defendant and the prosecutor. In the pre-sentence report, the probation officer concludes that given the defendant's prior record and the presumption of incarceration for this offense, defendant does not appear to be a candidate for probation.

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Defendant's criminal history includes seven (7) prior convictions, namely, theft-lillegal retention (6 counts) (Oct. 1992), with probation violated and terminated in 1997; bad check over \$200 (Sept. 1995); two convictions for issuing/passing bad check (Oct. 1995), with probation being violated and terminated in 1997; a CDS related offense (Oct. 1995), with probation being violated and terminated in 1997; theft by deception (Aug. 1996) (Pennsylvania); theft by deception (2 counts) (Nov. 1997). His history also includes 5 prior disorderly persons offenses: intimidation (1993); theft by deception (1994); theft of services (1994); bad check (no account) (1995); harassment (1998).

The presentence report includes the certification of New Jersey Department of Criminal Justice Investigator Allan Buecker, Jr., concerning the activities of defendant Groff that are the subject of this case. Mr. Buecker's duties include conducting investigations concerning insurance fraud crimes. He certifies in pertinent part that:

- 2. As part of my duties while employed with the Department of Banking and Insurance, I was assigned to the Division of Criminal Justice, as a special State Investigator in August 1996 regarding DCJ case file #96-1884-DI named John Groff. In November 1997, I was transferred to DCJ and was assigned as the lead investigator to the Groff case and handled the case through to indictment in July 2001.
- 3. In May 1996, John Groff approached this Office in an attempt to become a confidential informant regarding insurance fraud in Camden City, New Jersey. Groff was interviewed and vehemently denied any personal involvement with regard to staging any automobile accidents. The investigation later revealed that Groff was in fact actually staging automobile accidents during the same time

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period, he was attempting to become a confidential informant for this Office.

- 4. On August 9, 1996, co-defendant Luis Ruiz provided a voluntary taped statement to the Pennsauken Police Department to support allegations of terroristic threats committed by John Groff. During his statement, Ruiz advised Detective Craig Morris that he and Groff were staging motor vehicle accidents in the Camden County area...This statement only gave approximate dates and locations of accidents staged by Groff and Ruiz. Through the course of this investigation, I reviewed in excess of 50 accident reports and investigated in excess of 15 potential staged accidents. It should be noted that defendant Groff was among a number of targets being investigated in this conspiratorial scheme.
- 5. DCJ did not interview, nor question John Groff before he went to State Prison in September 1997, since there was an ongoing investigation involving staged multi-vehicle accidents in the Camden County area. Nonetheless, Groff was well aware of the fact that this Office was investigating him and others connected to the same staged accidents. Through manipulative devices, Groff attempted to obstruct the State's investigation by tampering with witnesses, who may provide credible information leading to Groff's culpability. More specifically, [Dalia] Gonzales advised this Office that an individual contacted her at Groff's direction and offered to pay Gonzales Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars in United States currency, to convince individuals involved in the staging of car accidents with Groff, to sign paperwork recanting their statements provided to law enforcement...
- 6. Thereafter, from February 1998 to June 1998, I attended the Division of Criminal Justice Academy, Basic Course for Investigators. This was a full-time Police Academy that is certified by the State of New Jersey Police Training Commission.
- 7. In August 1998 due to internal manpower restraints, I was specially assigned to a Division priority investigation in Union County, New Jersey. My special assignment concluded in July 2000, at which time the Groff investigation resumed.
- 8. During the course of this protracted investigation, 19 voluntary sworn taped statements were obtained and transcribed. The following is a time line in which these statements were obtained:

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August 1996 to December 1996, 8 statements were obtained from cooperating witnesses; January 1997 through August 1997, 7 statements were obtained through cooperating witnesses, and, December 2000 through April 2001, 5 statements were obtained from cooperating witnesses. Finally, 2 additional statements were obtained from cooperating witnesses post-indictment.

The pre-sentence report also includes the statement of Luis Ruiz detailing how defendant staged those accidents.

The aggravating factors are:

Factor 3: The risk that the defendant will commit another crime.

Factor 5: There is a substantial likelihood that the defendant is involved in organized criminal activity. The pre-sentence report includes statements of other persons involved in the "staged automobile accidents" scheme that defendant set up, concerning fake accidents, as well as fake victims, a lawyer for the fake victims (Michael Gernak), and a chiropractor to provide fake reports and bills. (Statement of co-defendant Luis Ruiz, Exhibit C to the Certification of Investigator Buecker in the pre-sentence report).

Factor 6: The extent of the defendant's prior criminal record and the seriousness of the offenses of which he has been convicted.

Factor 9: The need for deterring defendant and others from violating the law.

Factor 11: The imposition of a fine, penalty, or order for restitution without also imposing a term of imprisonment would be perceived by the defendant or others merely as part of the cost of doing business or as an acceptable contingent business or operating expense associated with the initial decision to resort to unlawful practices.

The mitigating factor is factor 12, the willingness of the defendant to cooperate with law enforcement authorities. His cooperation has

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continued ever since September 25, 2002. Exhibits attached to the State's sentencing brief reflect that defendant has provided law enforcement authorities extensive information respecting individuals involved in the manufacture or distribution of controlled dangerous substances; and information concerning an auto theft, an active "chop shop", and an organized auto theft ring. And at an October 13, 2004 in camera evidentiary hearing in this matter, Inv. Buecker testified that defendant has done substantial work for the New Jersey State Police in first degree narcotics cases, and that he and another State Police detective believe that defendant's substantial cooperation warrants consideration of a non-custodial sentence.

I find by a preponderance of the credible evidence that the mitigating factor, factor 12, substantially outweighs all aggravating factors.

There is no presumption of incarceration for a third degree offense.

This was a renegotiated plea agreement between the Prosecutor and the defendant. A period of probation with fines, mandatory penalties, conditions, is sufficient to deter this type of conduct and to satisfy the interest of justice. There is a presumption that a sentence imposed on a plea bargain defendant is reasonable. State v. Sainz, 107 N.J. 283, 294 (1987) (presumption of reasonableness attaches to sentences imposed on plea bargain defendants). This renegotiated plea agreement appears fair

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and in the interest of justice the Court will impose the recommended sentence.

Accordingly, defendant is sentenced as follows:

I-01-07-43S, Amended Count 2:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:45-1, defendant is sentenced to five (5) years supervised, reporting probation. The conditions include cooperation by defendant with law enforcement authorities regarding certain criminal matters, to the extent defendant has knowledge of such matters. Defendant must find and maintain full-time legitimate and verifiable employment. DNA testing. \$50 VCCB. \$75 SNSF. \$30 LEOPA. The probation supervision fee is \$10 per month.

- Count 1 of I-01-07-43S is dismissed.
- Jail Credits: By Agreement of the Parties: 414 days (07/27 to 07/28/01, and 09/19/03 to 11/03/04).
- The previous sentence imposed on September 19, 2003 in this case is vacated.

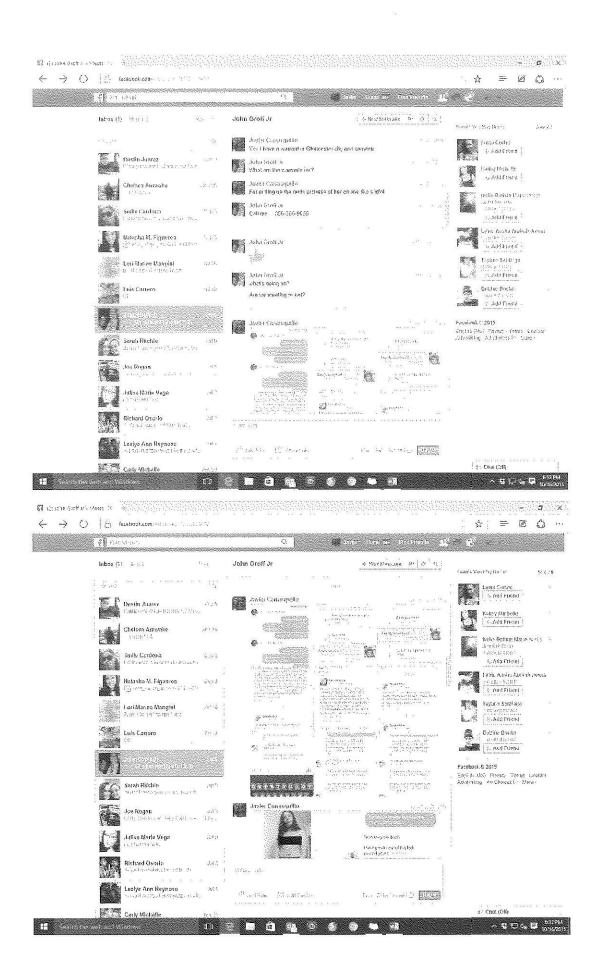
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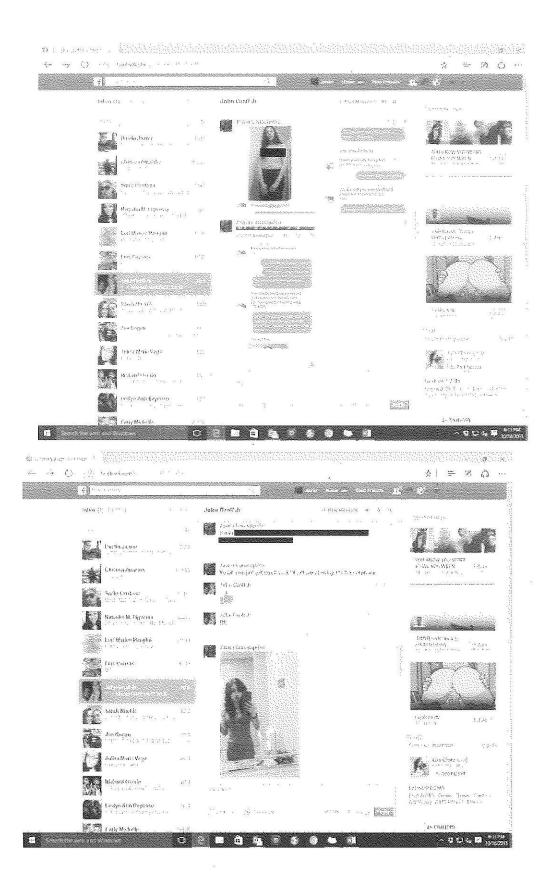
WILLIAM J. COOK, J.S.

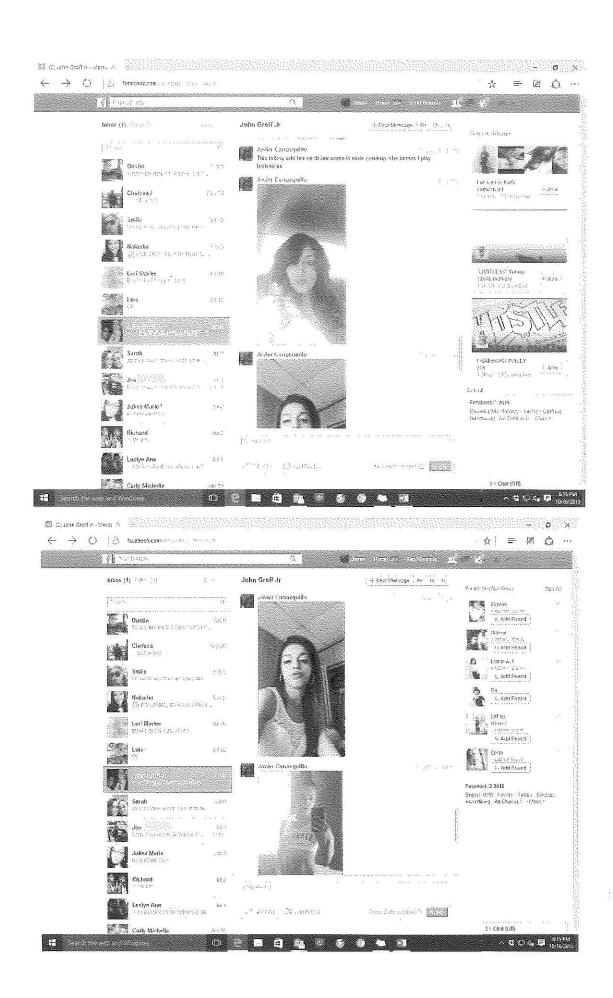
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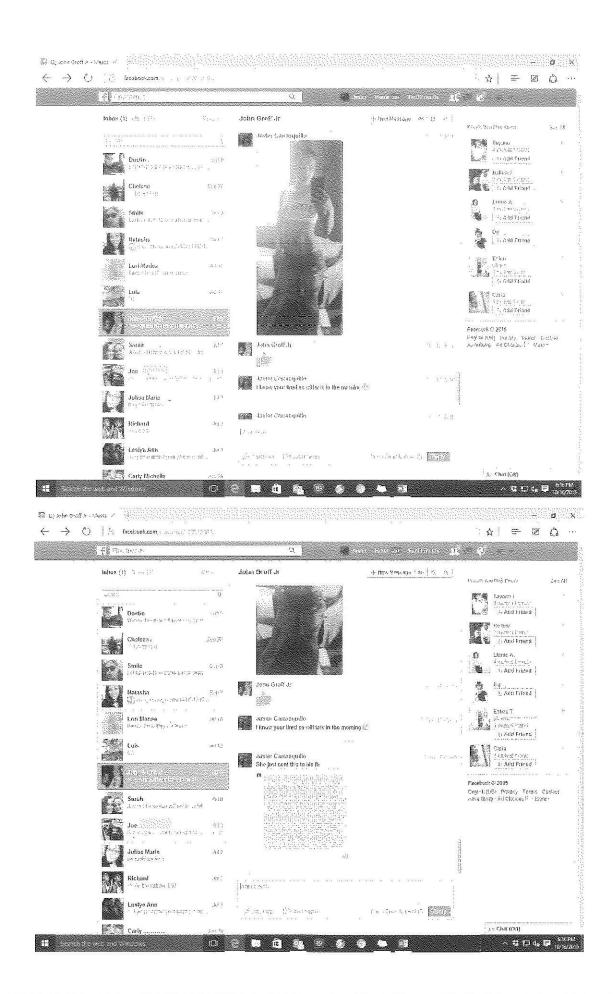
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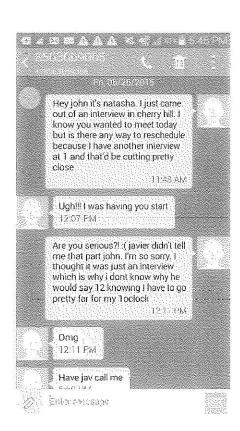


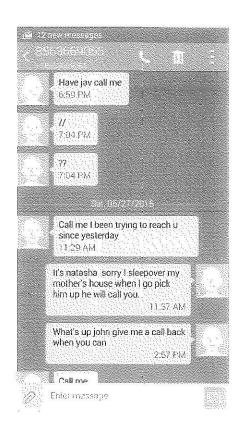


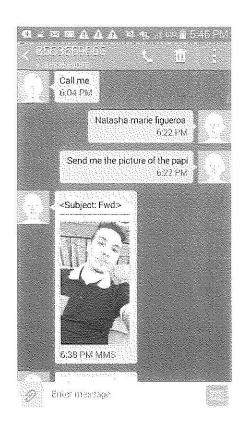


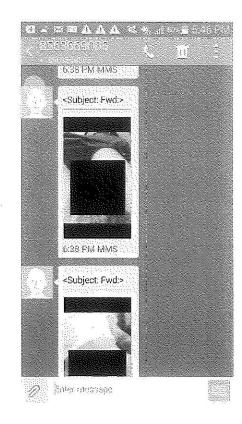
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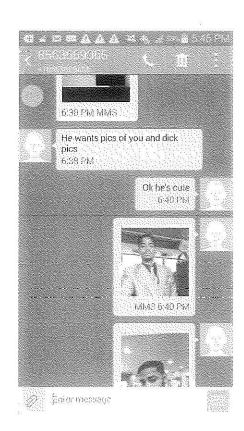
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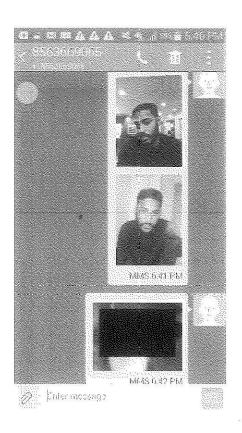


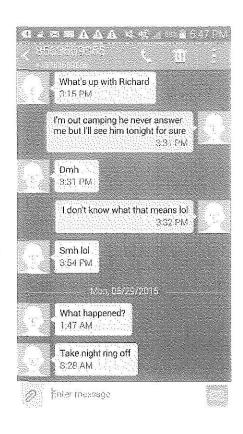


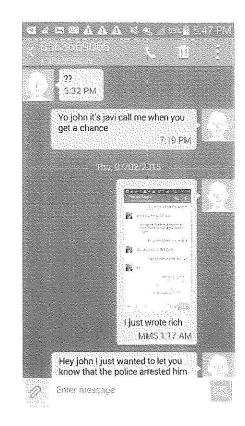


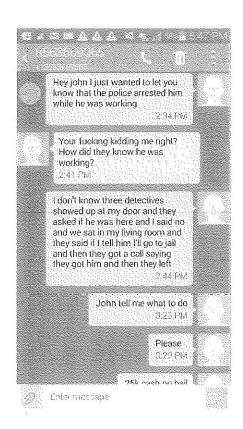


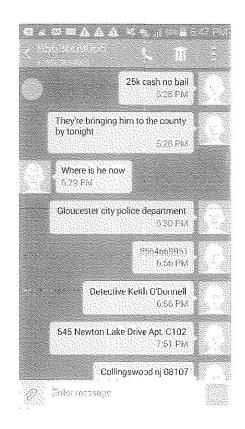


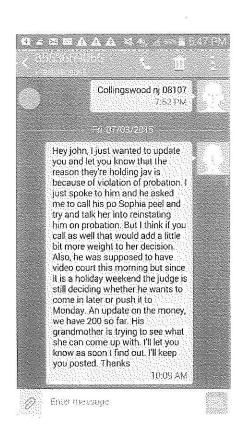


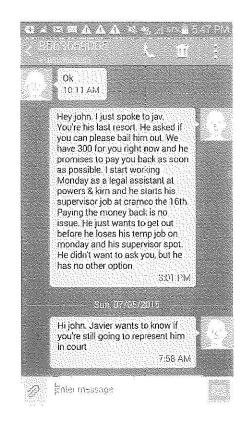


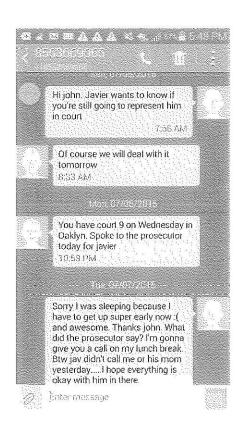


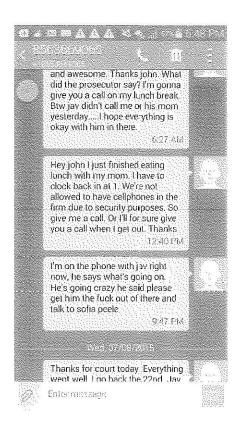


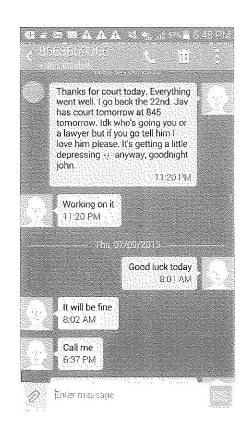


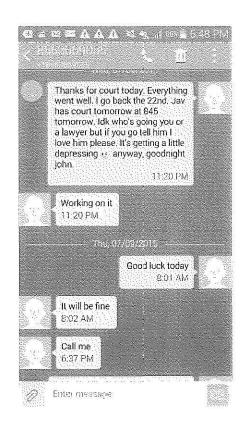


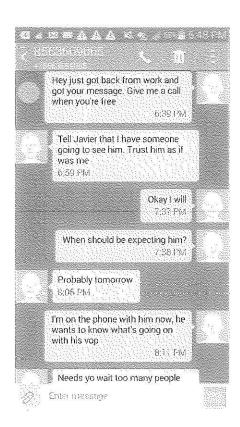


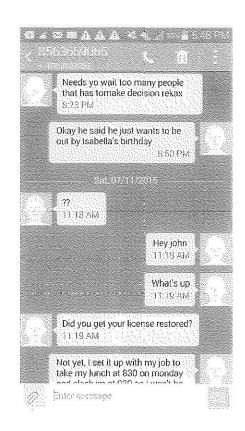


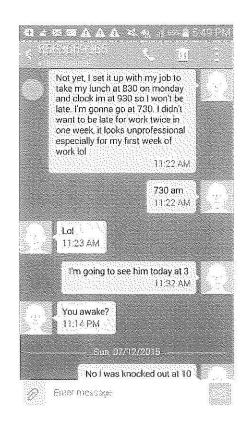


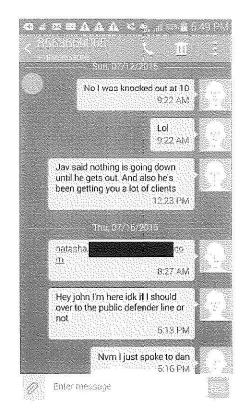


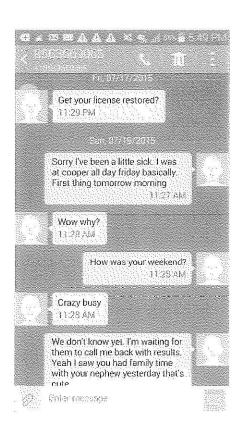


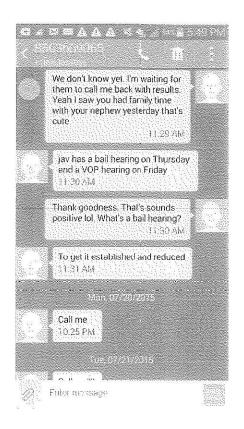


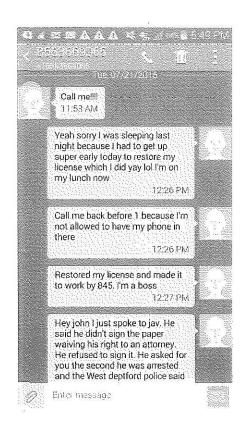


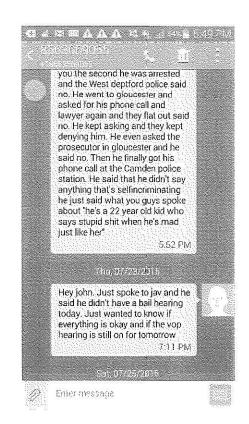


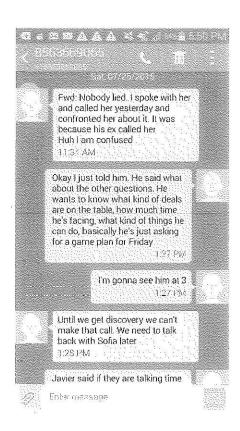


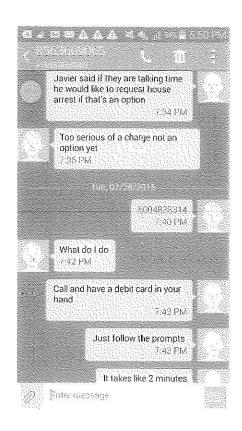


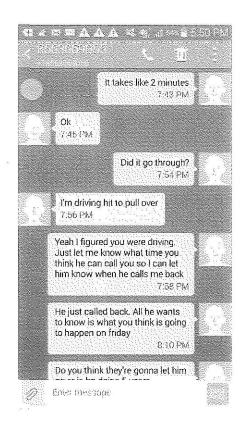


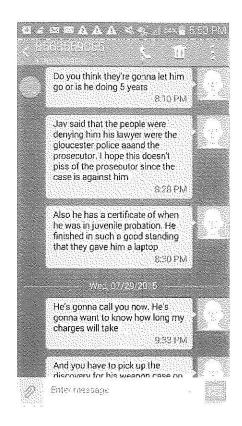


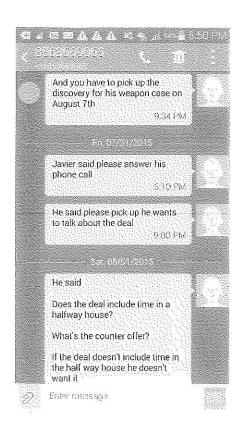


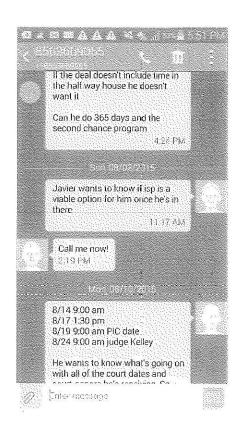


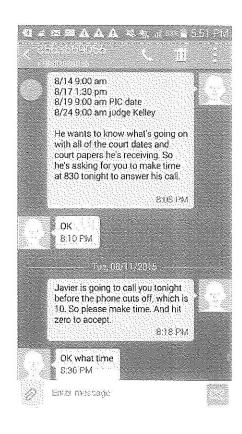


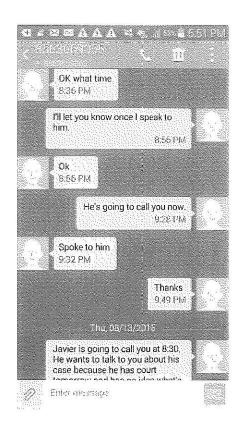


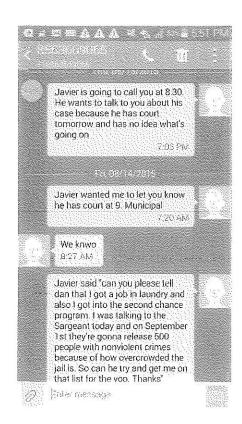


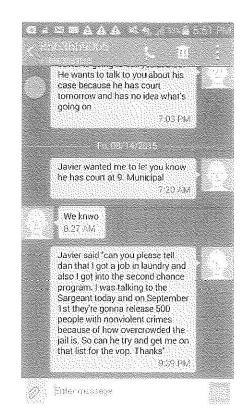












### Civil Case Information Statement

#### Case Details: CAMDEN | Civil Part Docket# L-003997-18

Case Caption: NUNEZ BRIAN VS THE LAW OFFICES OF

C ONRAD J.

Case Initiation Date: 10/22/2018

Attorney Name: MATTHEW ALLEN LUBER
Firm Name: MC OMBER & MC OMBER, PC
Address: 54 SHREWSBURY AVENUE

RED BANK NJ 07701

Phone:

Name of Party: PLAINTIFF : NUNEZ, BRIAN

Name of Defendant's Primary Insurance Company

(if known): Unknown

Case Type: LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION (LAD) CASES

Document Type: Complaint with Jury Demand

Jury Demand: YES - 6 JURORS Hurricane Sandy related? NO

Is this a professional malpractice case? NO

Related cases pending: NO If yes, list docket numbers:

Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same

transaction or occurrence)? NO

#### THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE

CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION

Do parties have a current, past, or recurrent relationship? YES

If yes, is that relationship: Other(explain) Law Firm/Attorney & Client

Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? YES

Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition:

Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? NO If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:

Will an interpreter be needed? NO If yes, for what language:

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with *Rule* 1:38-7(b)

10/22/2018 Dated /s/ MATTHEW ALLEN LUBER Signed

PCN: 30014201812182004358 DCN: 30014201812182004358001 Received Date/Time: 12/17/2018 1:36:15 PM Page 64 of 101